FIFTH DISTRICT, MD – Today, Congressman Steny H. Hoyer (MD-5) visited the St. Mary's County Emergency Command Center, where he received a briefing on the impact of Hurricane Sandy and spoke on a conference call with Governor O'Malley and local officials. He also visited SMECO in Hughesville to thank workers at the local utility company for working quickly to restore power to residents. Later today, he will join PEPCO President Tom Graham on a call for a briefing on their efforts.

"I'd like to thank our local first responders and other officials for keeping our communities safe throughout this dangerous storm," **stated Congressman Hoyer**. "My thoughts and prayers are with all Marylanders impacted by the storm. While Hurricane Sandy has left thousands of residents without power, our local utility companies are working around the clock to repair outages. I will continue to monitor our recovery, and work with Governor O'Malley and local officials to ensure Maryland families and businesses have the assistance they need to clean up and recover from the storm."

Yesterday, Congressman Hoyer visited Emergency Command Centers in Prince George's, Charles, and Calvert Counties. During his visit at the Calvert County Emergency Command Center, Congressman Hoyer spoke on a conference call with the Governor and local officials. Afterwards, he visited SMECO for a briefing on their preparedness efforts.

Clic <u>here</u> for more information on Hurricane Sandy from the Maryland Emergency Management Agency.